MAR 1 5 2005 B

Docket No.: 58799-098

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277

Atsushi TAKANE, et al. : Confirmation Number: 8082

Application No.: 10/681,116 : Group Art Unit: 2881

Allowed December 15, 2004

Filed: October 09, 2003 : Examiner: J. L. Smith

For: CHARGED PARTICLE BEAM APPARATUS

COMMENTS RESPONSIVE TO STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 104(e)

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The December 15, 2004 Notice of Allowability regarding the above-identified application included a Statement of Reasons for Allowance. Entry of that Statement into the record should not necessarily be construed as any agreement with or acquiescence by Applicants in the stated reasoning.

It is noted that the Notice of Allowability form (PTOL-37) correctly indicated allowance of all pending claims <u>50</u>-55. However, the discussion of "Allowable Subject Matter" on pages 2 and 3 did not reference all of the allowed claims. The initial listing of claims (item # 1) refers only to claims <u>51</u>-55. The further discussion (item # 2) refers to a "claim 1" (middle of page 2) and to claims 51-55 (top of page 3).

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The allowed claims are claims <u>50</u>-55. The patentability thereof should be reasonably apparent, without reference to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

To the extent necessary, if any, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

Keith E. George

Registration No. 34,111

600 13th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005-3096

202.756.8603 KEG:apr Facsimile: 202.756.8087

Date: March 15, 2005